

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 10-20, 54, and 57 are pending in this application. Claim 57 is added by the present amendment.

The Notice of Allowance of December 14, 2005, states that Claims 9, 21-53, 55, and 56 have been cancelled as non-elected claims.

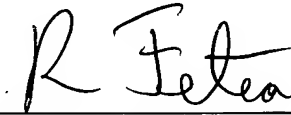
Applicant notes that Claim 9, although non-elected, depends indirectly from allowed Claim 1, which is a generic claim. Applicant believes that Claim 9 should have been rejoined with the allowed claims. Thus, new Claim 57 is added and corresponds to Claim 9 as amended in the Amendment filed September 12, 2005.

Applicant respectfully submits that new Claim 57 does not require additional search or examination because Claim 57 indirectly depends from allowed Claim 1. Finally, Applicant respectfully submits that new Claim 57 was presented as soon as Applicant reviewed the Examiner's Amendment included in the Notice of Allowance.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the present amendment. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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